RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether, over and above the memorandum submitted to the Government of India, any representation has been made by any officer of the Travancore Durbar?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, this question was considered by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research along with the report submitted to the Government of India by Dr. Patel. At that meeting of the Imperial Council of Agriculture, the Director of Agriculture, Travancore, was also present and took part in the deliberations.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): May I know how long ago that conference was held?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Some months ago.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) May I know whether Government have any information about the reason for delaying a decision by the Government of India?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no information.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): May I know whether there is any—(*cries of order, order*).

PRESIDENT: Order, Order. More than one series of questions by the same member is not allowed.

MR. P CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know whether Government have considered the question of duty on paddy and rice?

PRESIDENT: We are discussing only the question of cocoanuts now. Paddy and rice are far apart.

MR K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether there is any duty on Siam rice?

PRESIDENT: I said that rice does not arise now.

Grant-in-aid Schools.

73 ***MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil II*): With reference to grant-in-aid schools in the State, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that great hardship is caused to the management on account of the departmental orders in compelling the management to closely adhere to rules regarding accommodation, etc.?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The answer is in the negative.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know the sanctioned strength of a class?

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MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Roughly 45.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Is that done according to the rules of the Education Code?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know whether the department has issued orders to the managements of schools to the effect that a class should not contain more than 25 students?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I am not aware of that.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know whether in departmental schools there are classes containing more than 62 students?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): It may happen in some cases owing to rush for admission.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Will that concession be allowed to the private managements as well?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes. On the merits of each case.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know why those orders for enforcing the number of students were issued?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I am not aware of any special orders having been issued last year.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know whether last year special instructions were issued by the Assistant Inspector to enforce these rules more rigorously?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): There is a general instruction that all rules of the Code should be strictly enforced.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know whether there was any particular reason last year for issuing these circulars?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The Department has been insisting upon enforcing the rules of the Code as strictly as possible.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know whether it was due to financial difficulty?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*) No.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know whether any Assistant Inspector has issued orders to private school Managers saying that, because of financial difficulties of the Department, they were going to enforce rules rigorously?

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MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): One or two Assistant Inspectors misinterpreted the circulars issued from the head office.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacharry I*): May I know whether in this particular case any amounts were realised?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Grants were released to the extent to which funds permitted.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): Am I to take it then that the question of funds was one of the important questions that were given weight to by the department?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): That does not follow.

Health of pupils in Vernacular Schools.

74. *MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the health of pupils in departmental vernacular schools is greatly affected on account of housing them in dilapidated and unhealthy buildings?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The answer is in the negative.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know whether the department allots annual maintenance charges to each and every vernacular school in the State?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know whether maintenance charges include charges for repairing also?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Maintenance allotments are very small amounts. If within the allotment the floors could be repaired, they are done.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnatur cum Pattanapuram*): May I know whether there are as a matter of fact vernacular schools which are in a dilapidated condition?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, Sir, I am afraid I have to admit that.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether maintenance work is conducted by the P. W. Department directly or given in contract system?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Primary schools have an allotment for petty construction and repairs and the department arranges the work through contractors.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know how many vernacular schools there are in a dilapidated condition?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): A few.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know the approximate number?

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